GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4669
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2014
HEALTH AND SAFETY RECORDS IN STEEL SECTOR
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that the workers are more prone to health and safety hazards in steel sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the preventive steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI) STEEL AND MINES

(a)&(b): The steel industry has been classified as hazardous process industry as per the Factories Act, 1948. Hazards mainly emanate from extremely high temperature process involving liquid hot metal/slag, generation of by-product gases which have toxic and explosive constituents, large amount of material handling/transporting, fire, electricity, hit/caught/pressed by moving/rotating machines, working at height etc.

(c) Steel is a deregulated sector and individual steel manufacturing companies enforce health and safety procedures in their respective plants/units. Considering the provisions of the Factories Act,1948 and OHSAS-18001, Public Sector Undertakings viz. Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) have formulated Occupational Health and Safety Policy for health and safety of workers which inter-alia includes safety training, safety audits, incident analysis & rectification measures etc.